

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached drawings include changes to Figs. 1-5b. These sheets, which include Figs. 1-5b replace the original sheets including Figs. 1-5b. In Figures 1-5b, the legend “Related Art” has been added.

Attachments: Replacement Sheets with Figs. 1-5b

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-12 are pending. Non-elected claims 13-62 have been withdrawn by the Examiner. By this Amendment, the specification, title, drawings and claims 1, 3, and 12 are amended, and claims 13-62 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer to be pursued in a Continuation/Divisional application. No new matter is added. Support for the claims can be found throughout the specification, including the original claims, and the drawings. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

The Office Action objected to the drawings, indicating that Figures 1-5b should be designated by a legend, such as --Prior Art--. Figures 1-5b have been amended to include the legend "Related Art" to correspond to the specification. Accordingly, the objection to the drawings should be withdrawn.

The Office Action objected to the specification for an informality. The Examiner's comments have been addressed in amending the specification. Accordingly, the objection should be withdrawn.

The Office Action objected to claim 12 for an informality. The Examiner's comments have been addressed in amending claim 12. Accordingly, the objection should be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejected claims 1, 11, and 12 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Makino (US 5,789,862). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

With respect to independent claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that Makino does not disclose or suggest at least "wherein a distance d between the scan electrode and the sustain

electrode is set wider than a distance L between the scan electrode, and wherein the following relation is satisfied: $d > 1.25 L$. Further, Makino does not disclose or suggest the claimed combination of independent claim 1.

Rather, Makino discloses $d=2.0 h$. However, the feature $d=2.0 h$ of Makino is distinct from the claimed subject matter of $d > 1.25 L$ of independent claim 1. That is, Makino discloses that when the surface discharge gap d is wide ($d=2.0 h$), the writing range can be ensured even for a very low data pulse voltage V_D by increasing the scan pulse voltage V_w . The selective writing discharge can occur for each pixel. Within the range $0.80 \leq h/d \leq 1.25$, pixels can be selectively caused to emit light at a low data pulse voltage V_D reducing the power consumption. That is, Makino selects the range $0.80 \leq h/d \leq 1.25$ ($0.8h \leq d \leq 1.25h$) to reduce the power consumption during the address period.

In contrast, with the claimed invention of independent claim 1, during the sustain period, in order to form a wide positive column, a distance d between the scan electrode Y and the sustain electrode Z is set wider than a distance L between the scan electrode Y and the address electrode X , thus increasing discharge efficiency. For this reason, the relationship of $d > L$ is inevitable; however, Makino can take range $0.8h \leq d \leq h$. Therefore, the subject matter $d > 1.25 L$ of independent claim 1 is distinct from the feature ($d=2.0 h$) of Makino.

Accordingly, the rejection of independent claim 1 over Makino should be withdrawn. Dependent claim 11-12 are allowable over Makino at least for the reasons discussed above with respect to independent claim 1, from which they depend, as well as for their added features.

The Office Action rejected claims 2-10 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Makino in view of Lee et al. (hereinafter "Lee") US 6,720,736. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Dependent claims 2-10 are allowable over Makino at least for the reasons discussed above with respect to independent claim 1, from which they depend, as well as for their added features. Lee fails to overcome the deficiencies of Makino, as it is merely cited for allegedly teaching an auxiliary electrode formed on the address electrode in a portion where the scan and sustain electrodes intersect the address electrode. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 2-10 over Makino and Lee should be withdrawn.

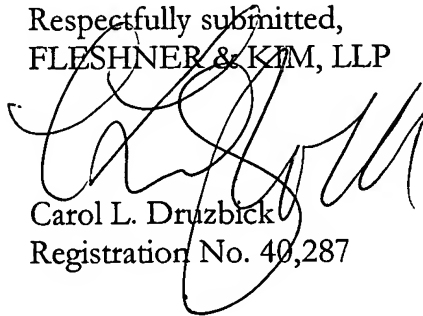
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: July 17, 2006

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